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MAY 05 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Allen, et al.
Serial No.: 09/652,370
Filed: August 31, 2000
Title: System and Method for Efficient Management of Fibre Channel Communication

\$ Group Art Unit: 2182
\$
\$ Examiner: Mohammed O. Farooq
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\$ Attorney Docket No. AUS920000537US1
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I hereby certify that this correspondence was sent via facsimile to the United States Patent Office to telephone number 703-872-9306 on May 4, 2004.

By: Joseph T. Van Leeuwen
Joseph T. Van Leeuwen

5/4/04
Date

RESPONSE TO SECOND NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of January 9, 2004, with a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on April 9, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections and reexamination of the present application in light of the following remarks and amendments.

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Atty Ref. No. IBM-0034

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A one month extension of time is believed necessary and is hereby requested, payment for which is enclosed. If an further extension of time is required, the extension is requested, and the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

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